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**PETITION TO ACCEPT UNAVOIDABLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF  
MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CFR 1.378(b))**

Docket Number (Optional)

Mail to: Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria VA 22313-1450  
Fax: (571) 273-8300

RECEIVED

FEB 09 2011

02/08/2011 DALLEN 00000019 6454282

01 FC:1599

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information at (571) 272-3282.

Patent Number: 6,454,282Application Number: 09/755,800Issue Date: September 24, 2002Filing Date: January 5, 2001

CAUTION: Maintenance fee (and surcharge, if any) payment must correctly identify: (1) the patent number (or reissue patent number, if a reissue) and (2) the application number of the actual U.S. application (or reissue application) leading to issuance of that patent to ensure the fee(s) is/are associated with the correct patent. 37 CFR 1.366(c) and (d).

Also complete the following information, if applicable:

The above-identified patent:

- ☐ is a reissue of original Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_ original issue date \_\_\_\_\_  
original application number \_\_\_\_\_  
original filing date \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ resulted from the entry into the U.S. under 35 U.S.C. 371 of international application  
\_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION (37 CFR 1.8(a))**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is

(1) being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 OR

(2) transmitted by facsimile on the date shown below to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300.

January 29, 2011

Date

Signature

Kenny Sexton, President - Table Toter, Inc.

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

[Page 1 of 4]

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.378(b). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 8 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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## 1. SMALL ENTITY

☒ Patentee claims, or has previously claimed, small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

## 2. LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS

☐ Patentee is no longer entitled to small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)

## 3. MAINTENANCE FEE (37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g))

The appropriate maintenance fee must be submitted with this petition, unless it was paid earlier.

NOT Small Entity			Small Entity		
Amount	Fee	(Code)	Amount	Fee	(Code)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	3 ½ yr fee	(1551)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	3 ½ yr fee	(2551)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 ½ yr fee	(1552)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$ 1,240.00	7 ½ yr fee	(2552)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 ½ yr fee	(1553)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 ½ yr fee	(2553)

MAINTENANCE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$ 1,240.00

## 4. SURCHARGE

The surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.20(i)(1) of \$ 700.00 (Fee Code 1557) must be paid as a condition of accepting unavoidably delayed payment of the maintenance fee.

SURCHARGE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$ 700.00

## 5. MANNER OF PAYMENT

☒ Enclosed is a check for the sum of \$ 1,940.00☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

## 6. AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE ANY FEE DEFICIENCY

☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any maintenance fee, surcharge or petition fee deficiency to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**7. OVERPAYMENT**

As to any overpayment made, please

☐ Credit to Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_**OR**☒ Send refund check**WARNING:**

Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers (other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes) is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to the USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application) or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application is referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available.

**8. SHOWING**

The enclosed statement will show that the delay in timely payment of the maintenance fee was unavoidable since reasonable care was taken to ensure that the maintenance fee would be paid timely and that this petition is being filed promptly after the patentee was notified of, or otherwise became aware of, the expiration of the patent. The statement must enumerate the steps taken to ensure timely payment of the maintenance fee, the date and the manner in which the patentee became aware of the expiration of the patent, and the steps taken to file the petition promptly.

**9. PETITIONER(S) REQUESTS THAT THE DELAYED PAYMENT OF THE MAINTENANCE FEE BE ACCEPTED AND THE PATENT REINSTATED.**


Signature(s) of Petitioner(s)

January 29, 2011

Date

Kenny Sexton, President - Table Toter, Inc.

Typed or printed name(s)

N/A

Registration Number, if applicable

49 Martin Street

Address

304-630-1199 or 479-774-3267

Telephone Number

Elkins, WV 26241-3490

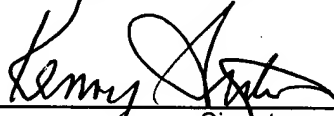
Address

**ENCLOSURES:**

- ☒ Maintenance Fee Payment  
☒ Statement why maintenance fee was not paid timely  
☒ Surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(i)(1) (fee for filing the maintenance fee petition)  
☐ Other:

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37 CFR 1.378(d) states: "Any petition under this section must be signed by an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office, or by the patentee, the assignee, or other party in interest."



Signature

January 29, 2011

Date

Kenny Sexton, President - Table Toter, Inc.

Type or printed name

N/A

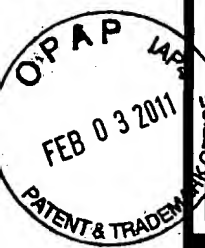
Registration Number, if applicable

### STATEMENT

(In the space below, please provide the showing of unavoidable delay recited in paragraph 8 above.)

Please see attached statements.

(Please attach additional sheets if additional space is needed)



**NEVER LIFT A FOLDING TABLE AGAIN!**

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

January 29, 2011

Mail Stop Petition

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RE Patent #6,454,282 - Petition to Accept Unavoidable Delayed Payment of Maintenance Fee In An Expired Patent (37 CFR 1.378(b))**

Dear Sir or Madam:

Following is an explanation of why the delay in timely payment of the maintenance fee was unavoidable.

1. The above mentioned patent was obtained by C. Robert Rhodes of the law firm Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice. His law firm took care of everything until June 2, 2008 when I asked them to cease services for me and change the address for the US Patent and Trademark Office to correspond with to be my address. Please see the attached copy of my email to Mr. Rhodes.
2. On July 7, 2008, Mr. Rhodes responded by email stating that they had authorized the US Patent and Trademark Office to change the correspondence address regarding our patent to 49 Martin Street, Elkins, WV 26241-3490. However, rather than sending it to you by certified mail – return receipt requested as I asked them to, they faxed the change in and their documentation of the address change and faxing is attached.
3. The address change never became effective as I have never received a single document by mail or otherwise from the US Patent and Trademark Office. I don't know if that is the fault of the Mr. Rhodes' law firm or the US Patent and Trademark Office, but in either case the address change never happened. The address change is still not effective. Please see the attached query I ran today at the US Patent and Trademark Office website. You still show the address as Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice in Atlanta, not the correct address in Elkins, WV. Also, please note that you mailed a maintenance fee reminder on May 3, 2010. I never received this notice as Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice never forwarded it to me, because if they would have, I would have simply paid the maintenance fee.

49 Martin Street • Elkins, WV 26241-3490

Office: (888) 201-8744 • Fax: (304) 636-7798 • Website: [www.tabletoter.com](http://www.tabletoter.com)

Email: [ksexton@tabletoter.com](mailto:ksexton@tabletoter.com) or [bevsexton@tabletoter.com](mailto:bevsexton@tabletoter.com)

**CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED**

January 29, 2011

Commissioner of Patents

Page 2

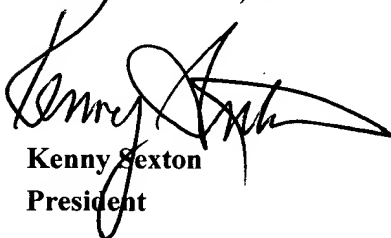
4. On November 27, 2010, I received a letter from Mr. Rhodes dated November 22, 2010 informing me that my patent had expired for non-payment of maintenance fees. I was totally caught off guard and shocked. Please look at the US Patent and Trademark Office's Notice of Patent Expiration attached to Mr. Rhodes letter. It still has the incorrect Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice Atlanta, GA address on it, not my address. Please note that the date of the expiration is October 25, 2010 and that Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice received the notice on November 10, 2010. However, Mr. Rhodes didn't write me until November 22, 2010 that my patent had expired, which seems inappropriate to me of something of this importance. The bottom line again is that the one person who should have been notified, and that is me, was not notified.

In summary, none of this would have happened if the address had been properly changed as I had requested. I would have simply paid the maintenance. It is not my fault that the address change didn't happen. I was told by Mr. Rhodes and provided documentation that they had done so. Further, it is not my fault that Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice did not forward important notices from US Patent and Trademark Office to me. I did not know that any notices were being sent. How could I?

Based on the facts and documentation that I have presented, it is my opinion that I should only be required to pay the \$1,240.00 maintenance fee and not be subject to \$700.00 surcharge. However, in good faith, I have enclosed a check in the amount of \$1,940.00 for both. If you agree with me that I should not be required to pay the \$700.00 surcharge, please mail me a refund check. I respectfully ask that you reinstate our Patent #6,454,282. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

TABLE TOTER, INC.



Kenny Sexton  
President

**Kenny Sexton**

---

**From:** "Kenny Sexton" <ksexton@tabletotter.com>  
**To:** "Vicki Spiker" <vspiker@wcsr.com>; "Bob Rhodes" <brhodes@wcsr.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 02, 2008 1:56 PM  
**Subject:** Table Toter, Inc. Canadian Patent

Dear Vicki and Bob,

I recently received a bill from you for \$765.74 of which I will pay this week. However, I want you to drop the Canadian Patent and stop all time and effort on the Canadian Patent for Table Toter, Inc. including your Canadian associate Finlayson & Singlehurst. Bob, you originally estimated that the Canadian Patent would be issued within two years of the U.S. Patent at a cost approximately \$4,000. However, it has now been 5 1/2 years and there still is no patent and the Canadian Associate fees and your fees have now totaled \$10,994.07 since the U.S. Patent was issued. I am finished spending money for this purpose. Do not do any more work for this purpose or any other purpose unless I have asked you to do so after the date of this email.

We have moved and our new address is: Table Toter, Inc., 49 Martin Street, Elkins, WV 26241-3490. Our new phone and fax numbers are 304-630-1199 and 304-636-7798, respectively.

Please send written certified mail request to the U.S. and Canadian Patent Offices instructing them to send all future correspondence regarding our patent files to my attention at the new address which I have given to you and please mail me a copy of this request, also.

Thank you for your work through these years. If I need you for something I can't handle in the future, I will be calling.

Sincerely,

Kenny

Kenny Sexton, President  
Table Toter, Inc.  
49 Martin Street  
Elkins, WV 26241-3490  
304-630-1199

6/2/2008

**Kenny Sexton**

#2

**From:** "Rhodes, Bob" <BRhodes@wcsr.com>  
**Date:** Monday, July 07, 2008 10:59 AM  
**To:** <ksexton@tabletotter.com>  
**Cc:** "Rhodes, Bob" <BRhodes@wcsr.com>; "Spiker, Vicki" <VSpiker@wcsr.com>  
**Attach:** T8127 documents.pdf  
**Subject:** U.S. Patent 6,454,282 - Our File T8127-3 (3.1)  
 Dear Kenny:

In accordance with your request of June 2, 2008, we have authorized the US Patent and Trademark Office to change the correspondence address regarding the above-identified U.S. patent to your address in Elkins, WV. Attached is a copy of the Change of Correspondence Address (Patent) and fax transmittal confirmation for your records, as requested.

Also, you should have received a copy of our email to our Canadian associate, Finlayson & Singlehurst, requesting change of correspondence address for Canadian patent application 2,380,112 in the Canadian Patent Office from our associate's address to your Elkins, WV address.

We have marked all records for Table Toter, Inc. "inactive" in our docketing system and will, therefore, send no further correspondence regarding either the U.S. patent or Canadian patent application above-mentioned.

We will send our last statement of any outstanding services provided to complete these matters with the U.S. Patent Office and our Canadian associate, and will forward any outstanding Canadian invoice our associate may have.

Regards,  
 C. Robert Rhodes

Sent on behalf of C. Robert Rhodes - Attorney

**Vicki M. Spiker**

*North Carolina Certified Paralegal*

*Intellectual Property Matters*

*Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC*

*1900 Wachovia Tower*

*300 N. Greene Street*

*Greensboro, NC 27401*

*Direct Phone: (336) 574-8041*

*Direct Fax: (336) 574-4518*

*vspiker@wcsr.com*

**IRS CIRCULAR 230 NOTICE:** To ensure compliance with requirements imposed by the IRS, we inform you that any U.S. tax advice contained in this communication (or in any attachment) is not intended or written to be used, and cannot be used, for the purpose of (i) avoiding penalties under the Internal Revenue Code or (ii) promoting, marketing or recommending to another party any transaction or matter addressed in this communication (or in any attachment).

**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:** This electronic mail transmission has been sent by a lawyer. It may contain information that is confidential, privileged, proprietary, or otherwise legally exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you are not authorized to read, print, retain, copy or disseminate this message, any part of it, or any attachments. If you have received this message in error, please delete this message and any attachments from your system without reading the content and notify the sender immediately of the inadvertent transmission. There is no intent on the part of the sender to waive any privilege, including the attorney-client privilege, that may attach to this communication. Thank you for your cooperation.

1/29/2011



# **CHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS Patent**

Address to:  
Mail Stop Post Issue  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Patent Number	6,454,282
Issue Date	9/24/2002
Application Number	09/755,800
Filing Date	1/5/2001
First Named Inventor	Kenny A. Sexton
Attorney Docket Number	T8127-3 (3.1)

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FEB 09 2011

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Please change the Correspondence Address for the above-identified patent to:

☐ The address associated with Customer Number:

OR

☒ **Firm or  
Individual Name** Table Toter, Inc.

49 Martin Street

**Address**

City Elkins

State WV

ZIP 26241-3490

Country US

Telephone (304) 630-1199

Email ksexton@tabletotter.com

This form cannot be used to change the data associated with a Customer Number. To change the data associated with an existing Customer Number use "Request for Customer Number Data Change" (PTO/SB/124).

This form will not affect any "fee address" provided for the above-identified patent. To change a "fee address" use the "Fee Address Indication Form" (PTO/SB/47).

I am the:

☐ Patentee.

☐ Assignee of record of the entire Interest. See 37 CFR 3.71.  
Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96).

☒ Attorney or agent of record. Registration Number 24,200

Signature

Typed or  
Printed Name C. Robert Rhodes

Date

X July 2, 2008

Telephone (336) 574-8040

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire Interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☒ Total of 1 forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.33. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 3 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Post Issue, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

**Spiker, Vicki**

---

**From:** WSRightFAX01 Exchange E-mail Gateway  
**Posted At:** Thursday, July 03, 2008 3:23 PM  
**Conversation:** Your fax has been successfully sent to ATTN: M.FEE BRANCH at 915712738300.  
**Posted To:** Inbox  
**Subject:** Your fax has been successfully sent to ATTN: M.FEE BRANCH at 915712738300.

Your fax has been successfully sent to ATTN: M.FEE BRANCH at 915712738300.

-----  
**Client:** 08127  
**Matter:** 0003.1  
-----

**Time:** 7/3/2008 3:21:05 PM  
**Sent to** 915712738300 with remote ID "USPTO"  
**Result:** (0/339;0/0) Successful Send  
**Page record:** 1 - 2  
**Elapsed time:** 00:52 on channel 3

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Patent and  
Trademark Office

# 3

Finance  
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Patent Bibliographic Data		01/29/2011 03:48 PM	
Patent Number:	6454282	Application Number:	09755800
Issue Date:	09/24/2002	Filing Date:	01/05/2001
Title:	CART FOR FOLDING TABLES		
Status:	Expired for non-payment on: 09/24/2010		Entity: Small
Window Opens:	09/24/2009	Surcharge Date:	03/25/2010
Fee Amt Due:	\$0.00	Surchg Amt Due:	\$0.00
Fee Code:		Total Amt Due:	\$0.00
Surcharge Fee Code:			
Most recent events (up to 7):	09/24/2010 Patent Expired for Failure to Pay Maintenance Fees. 05/03/2010 Maintenance Fee Reminder Mailed. 03/23/2006 Payment of Maintenance Fee, 4th Yr, Small Entity. --- End of Maintenance History ---		
Address for fee purposes:	WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE, PLLC ATTN: IP DOCKETING P.O. BOX 7037 ATLANTA, GA 303570037		
<b>NOTE: All USPTO fees are subject to change. If you are making a payment by mail or fax, please visit this link or contact the Maintenance Fee Branch (571-272-6500) to confirm the amount due on the date payment is to be made. A maintenance fee payment can be timely made using the certificate of mailing or transmission procedure set forth in 37 CFR 1.8.</b>			
<input type="button" value="Run Another Query"/>			

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WOMBLE  
CARLYLE  
SANDRIDGE  
& RICE

A PROFESSIONAL LIMITED  
LIABILITY COMPANY

300 N. Greene Street  
Suite 1900  
Greensboro, NC 27401

Telephone: (336) 574-8030  
Fax: (336) 574-4520  
www.wcsr.com

C. Robert Rhodes  
Direct Dial: (336) 574-8040  
Direct Fax: (336) 574-4512  
E-mail: brhodes@wcsr.com

14  
November 22, 2010

Mr. Kenny A. Sexton  
President  
Table Toter, Inc.  
49 Martin Street  
Elkins, WV 26241-3490

Received  
11-27-10

Re: U.S. Patent No. 6,454,282  
Issued: September 24, 2002  
*CART FOR FOLDING TABLES*  
Our File No. T8127-3 (3.1)

Dear Kenny:

We hereby inform you that the above-identified patent expired on September 24, 2010 for non-payment of maintenance fees.

Parties will not be infringing upon your patent by any activity which takes place after September 24, 2010. However, parties may be liable to you after that date for any infringing activity which took place prior to that date. In any event, the law is, generally, that no recovery may be had for any infringement committed more than six (6) years prior to the filing by you of a lawsuit.

**\*ALERT\* - It is necessary now to remove from all items and materials any reference to the subject patent. It is no longer proper to label any items or processes nor to refer to any items or processes being patented under the subject patent. Failure to remove such labels from items and materials distributed after the expiration date exposes you to suit and financial loss.**

If you have any questions regarding this patent, this expiration or your related rights, please contact us.

Sincerely yours,



C. Robert Rhodes

CRR/bmm  
Enclosure

WCSR 4502934v1

In accordance with your request of June 2, 2008, we have authorized the US Patent and Trademark Office to change the correspondence address regarding the above-identified U.S. patent to your address in Elkins, WV. Attached is a copy of the Change of Correspondence Address (Patent) and fax transmittal confirmation for your records, as requested.

Also, you should have received a copy of our email to our Canadian associate, Finlayson & Singlehurst, requesting change of correspondence address for Canadian patent application 2,380,112 in the Canadian Patent Office from our associate's address to your Elkins, WV address.

We have marked all records for Table Toter, Inc. "inactive" in our docketing system and will, therefore, send no further correspondence regarding either the U.S. patent or Canadian patent application above-mentioned.

We will send our last statement of any outstanding services provided to complete these matters with the U.S. Patent Office and our Canadian associate, and will forward any outstanding Canadian invoice our associate may have.

Regards,  
C. Robert Rhodes

Sent on behalf of C. Robert Rhodes - Attorney

***Vicki M. Spiker***

*North Carolina Certified Paralegal*

*Intellectual Property Matters*

*Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice, PLLC*

*1900 Wachovia Tower*

*300 N. Greene Street*

*Greensboro, NC 27401*

*Direct Phone: (336) 574-8041*

*Direct Fax: (336) 574-4518*

*vspiker@wcsr.com*

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**CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:** This electronic mail transmission has been sent by a lawyer. It may contain information that is confidential, privileged, proprietary, or otherwise legally exempt from disclosure. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you are not authorized to read, print, retain, copy or disseminate this message, any part of it, or any attachments. If you have received this message in error, please delete this message and any attachments from your system without reading the content and notify the sender immediately of the inadvertent transmission. There is no intent on the part of the sender to waive any privilege, including the attorney-client privilege, that may attach to this communication. Thank you for your cooperation.

11/27/2010



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

P75M  
WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE, PLLC  
ATTN: PATENT DOCKETING  
P.O. BOX 7037  
ATLANTA GA 30357-0037

DATE PRINTED

10/25/10

**NOTICE OF PATENT EXPIRATION**

According to the records of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), payment of the maintenance fee for the patent(s) listed below has not been received timely prior to the end of the six-month grace period in accordance with 37 CFR 1.362(e). THE PATENT(S) LISTED BELOW HAS THEREFORE EXPIRED AS OF THE END OF THE GRACE PERIOD. 35 U.S.C. 41(b). Notice of the expiration will be published in the USPTO Official Gazette.

Expired patents may be reinstated in accordance with 37 CFR 1.378 if upon petition, the maintenance fee and the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(i) are paid, AND the delay in payment of the maintenance fee is shown to the satisfaction of the Director to have been unavoidable or unintentional. 35 U.S.C. 41(c)(1).

If the Director accepts payment of the maintenance fee and surcharge upon petition under 37 CFR 1.378, the patent shall be considered as not having expired but would be subject to the intervening rights and conditions set forth in 35 U.S.C. 41(c)(2).

For instructions on filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.378 to reinstate an expired patent, customers should call the Office of Petitions Help Desk at 571-272-3282 or refer to the USPTO Web site at [www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/petitionspractice.html](http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/petitionspractice.html). The USPTO also permits reinstatement under 37 CFR 1.378(c) by electronic petition (e-petition) using EFS-Web; e-petitions may be automatically granted if all the eligibility requirements are met. For further information on filing an e-petition, please call the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free) or 571-272-4100 or refer to the EBC's e-petition guide at [www.uspto.gov/ebc/portal/efs/petition\\_quickstart.pdf](http://www.uspto.gov/ebc/portal/efs/petition_quickstart.pdf).

PATENT NUMBER	U.S. APPLICATION NUMBER	PATENT ISSUE DATE	APPLICATION FILING DATE	EXPIRATION DATE	ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER
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NOTE: This notice was automatically generated based on the amount of time that elapsed since the date a patent was granted. It is possible that the patent term may have ended or been shortened due to a terminal disclaimer that was filed in the application. Also, for any patent that issued from an application filed on or after June 8, 1995 containing a specific reference to an earlier filed application or applications under 35 U.S.C. 120, 121, or 365(c), the patent term ends 20 years from the date on which the earliest such application was filed, unless the term was adjusted or extended under 35 U.S.C. 154 or 156.

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